



## Department for Business & Trade

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10 January 2024

Dear Nicholas,

Thank you for attending the Grand Committee for the Trade (Comprehensive and Progressive Agreement for Trans-Pacific Partnership) Bill on 14 December. During the debate, you raised questions around our approach to engaging with other countries on artist's resale rights (ARR), on which I promised to respond.

In particular, you asked about the status of our discussions with Japan and, more broadly, our strategy for ARR internationally.

ARR is a valuable and important part of the UK's copyright framework, and has provided a key source of income for visual artists while the UK has maintained its status as having one of the leading art markets in the world.

In 2022, the Design and Artists Copyright Society (DACS) paid £10 million in ARR royalties to artists. In 2022-2023, the Artists' Collecting Society (ACS) paid £2 million in ARR royalties to artists.

Each of these collecting societies receives royalties from partner societies in other countries and distributes them to their members. Last year, this represented almost £800,000 of DACS income and £162,000 of ACS income.

These international revenues are paid because other countries have implemented ARR in their domestic law and done so on reciprocal terms with the UK. As I set out in Grand Committee, we have secured deals with New Zealand and Australia that will result in the introduction of ARR in New Zealand and the establishment of reciprocity between the UK's and Australia's existing schemes. These outcomes should lead to an increase in ARR royalties for UK artists. While Japan does not provide ARR, the UK and Japan have committed to an ongoing exchange of views and information on ARR.

I am unable to comment further on ongoing and future trade negotiations, however we are seeking positive outcomes for the UK and our thriving creative industries in all trade negotiations.

If you would like to have a meeting on this matter to discuss it further, I would be happy to facilitate this.

I am placing a copy of this letter in the Library of the House.

With very best wishes,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'D. Johnson', with a horizontal line underneath.

**Lord Johnson of Lainston CBE**  
Minister for Investment and Regulatory Reform  
Department for Business and Trade